

the standard at our U.S. average emissions for the industry. So all you have to do to pay nothing is be better than average. And if you are below average, all you have to do to pay nothing is to clean up your act to where half your industry already is.

We also give clear targets to industries for future baseline carbon intensity because that is what industry wants—clarity, certainty to know where the goalposts are.

Look at an example. Under my bill, the average or better American steel mill would pay no charge at all because it is better than average. The below average steel mill might pay \$5 to \$10 per ton of steel produced, a \$5 to \$10 per ton incentive to clean up its mill. But here is the really good part: Imports from a Chinese steel mill, more like \$110 per ton. The below average U.S. steel mill, \$5 to \$10; the Chinese, \$110. That will make Americans feel more competitive compared to polluting Chinese imports, and then buyers will beat a path to our door.

We might as well get ready with a U.S. carbon border adjustment because the European Union Parliament is passing a carbon border adjustment of its own. Member states will vote on that proposal later this year. When it takes effect, American companies will pay a carbon tariff to European governments—unless we have one of our own. Now, where we want to be is for the EU, the UK, Canada, Mexico, Japan, perhaps South Korea, all with common carbon border adjustments, creating a common carbon pricing platform across all those major economies so that we move toward decarbonization, and more importantly, the rest of the world that wants to trade with the United States, with the UK, with the EU, has to clean up its act. They would need to decarbonize and fast to have any hope of competing.

Trying to convince Chinese manufacturers to clean up their act out of the goodness of their hearts, perhaps, is a bit of a fool's errand. Putting a tariff on their goods so that they have to pay if they don't clean up their act? Now, that is how you get things going.

Unfortunately, this is on us now—on Democrats. There are too many Republicans who are just in tow to the fossil fuel industry to help.

And, of course, you can't talk about anything having to do with climate change without the dark money scoundrels, propped up by the fossil fuel industry, to come and cause mischief. They are even advertising against my bill.

Here is an advertisement against it paid for by AG Conservatives—AG Conservatives. Well, assume that this is a real organization, which it isn't. It is a front group paid for by dark money that hides who the real donors are—just a mouthpiece for somebody who doesn't want to identify themselves.

But why would an agriculture group want to hurt manufacturing? It doesn't make any sense. Why would they not

want American manufacturing to have that advantage against their Chinese competition? Why would they be asking people to vote no on a carbon border adjustment?

And by the way, there are a lot of products where agricultural products form the feedstock for a later manufacturing product. And if we are bringing manufacturing to the United States because we are favored versus dirty polluting foreign manufacturers, why would they not want that to happen?

And where is agriculture in this fight anyway when this is mostly about manufacturing? Where, for American agriculture, is the downside?

If you think it through, it actually doesn't exist, which helps confirm to me that behind this phony front group is probably the fossil fuel industry pretending that it is some agriculture group. If that were agriculture, that was agriculture from millions of years ago before it all went down to the bottom and got compressed and rotted and turned, after millions of years, into oil. That is the agriculture.

So that is what we are up against. That is why Democrats are going to have to do this. The fossil fuel money that is driving the other party makes it impossible for bipartisanship to work.

We have a shot in reconciliation to pass a serious climate bill—a real one—and we should make a carbon border adjustment a central component of that bill. It is a win-win-win. We compete on a playing field with a huge built-in advantage for American manufacturing; we spare ourselves carbon tariffs from the EU; and we relentlessly, with economic pressure and power, drive down carbon pollution across the biggest polluters around the globe—a win-win-win.

The choice is clear. Let's win.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 1031, Vinay Vijay Singh, of Pennsylvania, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Vinay Vijay Singh, of Pennsylvania, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Singh nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, June 2022 marks the 85th annual Dairy Month, and today I wish to recognize the hard work of South Dakota's dairy industry.

Our dairy producers and processors work tirelessly to provide high-quality, safe, and nutritious products for people around the world. The 2020–2025 U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans highlights that dairy consumption is a critical part of a healthy, balanced diet and is the leading source of calcium and vitamin D, critical components of bone strength and heart health.

In 2021, the U.S. dairy industry contributed approximately \$753 billion to the U.S. economy, and it supports 3.3 million jobs. South Dakota's dairy industry is experiencing exciting growth, as seen by the doubling of milk production between 2000 and 2020. In 2019, South Dakota produced more than \$563 million in milk and dairy products. South Dakota is home to more than 170 dairy farms and nearly a dozen processing facilities that support more than 6,000 jobs in our State. Each dairy cow brings an estimated \$26,000 of economic impact to communities every year.

Our Nation's producers are also leading the way in sustainability and efficiency. Between 2007 and 2017, they decreased their carbon footprint by 19 percent. The industry has also successfully lowered the water input in a gallon of milk by 30 percent. These increased efficiencies are a window into the incredible innovation of the agriculture industry as producers continue working to feed the world.

I commend the hard work and dedication of our State's dairy farmers and processors and all that they do to continue to supply the world with nutritious dairy products. I wish the dairy industry continued prosperity in the years to come.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision